

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 DHA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 SP-02 /065 W

-----180945Z 076735 /15

P 171415Z JAN 77

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5496

INFO AMEMBSSY BONN

AMEMBSSY BRUSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBURT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

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CAPETOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, SF, PFOR

SUBJECT: ICFTU WEEK OF ACTION AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA

REF: (A) STATE 8644 (NOTAL); (B) LONDON 715 (NOTAL)

1. GENERAL VIEW IN SOUTH AFRICA IS THAT THE UK APPEAL COURT

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DECISION AGAINST THE BRITISH POSTAL WORKERS UNION PLANNED

BOYCOTT OF SOUTH AFRICA WILL DIMINISH THE EFFECTIVENESS OF

THE INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS

(ICFTU) WEEK OF ACTION CAMPAIGN IN SUPPORT OF BLACK

SOUTH AFRICAN TRADE UNIONS.

2. THE DECISION OF THE ICFTU EXECUTIVE BOARD ON NOVEMBER 25,

1976 TO SET ASIDE THE WEEK OF JANUARY 17, 1977 TO
PUT PRESSURE ON THE SAG TO RECOGNIZE AND RESPECT HUMAN
AND TRADE UNION RIGHTS WAS LARGELY A REACTION TO THE
SAG'S BANNING OF MORE THAN 30 TRADE UNIONISTS INVOLVED WITH
THE BLACK LABOR MOVEMENT, INCLUDING LOET DOUWES DEKKER AND
ERIC AND JEAN TYACKE (AMERICAN) OF THE URBAN TRAINING PROJECT.
THE ICFTU CAMPAIGN HAS BEEN PUBLICLY CRITICIZED BY ARTHUR
GROBBELAAR, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE TRADE UNION COUNCIL OF
SOUTH AFRICA (TUCSA). GROBBELAAR IS QUOTED
IN THE PRESS AS SAYING THE "INTERNATIONAL TRADE UNION
ACTION AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA WILL BE A GIGANTIC LETDOWN
WHICH WILL HARM TRADE UNIONISM MORE THAN SOUTH AFRICA."

3. COMMENT: THE ICFTU ACTION IS EXPECTED TO HAVE MORE EFFECT
ABROAD FOR FIRMS DEALING WITH SOUTH AFRICA THAN WITHIN THE
COUNTRY BECAUSE THE SAG AND LOCAL INDUSTRY HAVE LONG BEEN
CONDITIONED TO COPE WITH INTERNATIONAL HARRASSING TACTICS.
LEADERS OF THE SMALL (60,000 MEMBER) BLACK TRADE UNION
MOVEMENT ALSO GENERALLY OPPOSE ECONOMIC
SANCTIONS AND BOYCOTTS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, UNION GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, BOYCOTTS, POSTAL SERVICE
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
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